I support media diversity - a necessity for a democracy!
Following are comments on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of theFCC's
broadcast media ownership rules. In its goals to promote
competition, diversity and localism in today's media market, the FCC MUST
retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These
rules serve the public interest by limiting the market and political power
of already huge companies in the broadcast industry.

The studies commissioned by the FCC do not demonstrate the negative
affects media deregulation and consolidation have had on media diversity.
While there may be more sources of media than ever before, **the spectrum
of views presented have become more limited**.

The right to carry on informed debate and discussion of current events is
part of the founding philosophy of our nation. That's more than just
another sentence in another letter. It is critical to the survival of our
country!!!

Our forefathers believed that democracy was best served by a diverse
marketplace of ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge, our
ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of
viewpoints will be compromised.

The public interest will best be served by preserving media ownership
rules in question in this proceeding.

In addition to the official hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA, I
strongly urge the FCC to hold additional hearings elsewhere around the
nation to solicit the widest possible participation from the public which
will be the most directly affected by the outcomes of these decisions. I
think it is important for the FCC to not only consider the points of view
of those with a financial interest in this issue, but also those with a
social or civic interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it
is incumbent on the Commission to take the time to review these issues
more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in
the process.

Thank you,

James D. Garry
Delmar, N.Y.